

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03397 091000Z

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 EB-03 IGA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /026 W
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P R 090911Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9046

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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FOR AA/AFR ADAMS AND BROWN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NG

SUBJECT: NATIONAL CEREALS PRODUCTION PROGRAM NIGER
(NCPP)

REF: AMBASSADOR-ROSENTHAL TELECON OCTOBER 7

1. AS YOU UNDOUBTEDLY HEARD, AL BARON IS HOSPITALIZED IN LOME AND IS EXPECTED TO BE THERE OR IN HOSPITAL ELSEWHERE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. BARON HAS REQUESTED TWO MONTHS HOME LEAVE STARTING NOVEMBER 1 AND THIS IS FORTUITOUS COINCIDENCE IN THAT THIS SHOULD GIVE HIM AMPLE TIME AFTER RELEASE FROM HOSPITAL TO RECUPERATE AND BE WITH FAMILY.

2. IN BARON'S ABSENCE, CHIAVAROLI WILL TAKE OVER DIRECTION OF AID MISSION HERE AND I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN HIM. HOWEVER, AS REPORTED YESTERDAY IN REF TELECON, I AM TROUBLED BY EFFECT ON NCPP OF BARON'S ILLNESS AND GARVEY'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE FOR KINSHASA OCTOBER 13, WHICH IN EFFECT DEPRIVES THIS PROGRAM OF BOTH ITS MANAGEMENT AND EXPERTISE INPUTS AT SAME MOMENT. THERE SHOULD BE NO NEED TO STRESS TO YOU IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROGRAM WHICH REPRESENTS OUR MAJOR REDEVELOPMENT EFFORT IN NIGER NOR NEED TO MAINTAIN
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PAGE 02 NIAMEY 03397 091000Z

ITS MOMENTUM. AS RESULT OF DR. CUMMING'S RECENT VISIT,

PRESENCE HERE OF DR. SPRAGUE AND FORTHCOMING VISIT OF HOWARD POTTS AND ACDI TEAM, TOGETHER WITH DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN BARON AND GON, PEOPLE AND PIECES ARE BEGINNING TO FALL INTO PLACE AND GON IS NOW ACTIVELY PURSUING PROJECT.

ALL THIS IS NOW THREATENED BY BARON'S ILLNESS FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY GARVEY'S DEPARTURE. WE COULD HAVE MANAGED WITH ONE BUT NOT BOTH LOSSES AT THIS TIME, ESPECIALLY AS AID STAFF IS IN STATE OF TRANSITION (PROUTY DEPARTS OCTOBER 12, LIVINGSTON IS STILL LEARNING HIS WAY) AND EVERYONE IS FULLY OCCUPIED WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF OUR AID PROGRAM HERE, INCLUDING PREPARATIONS FOR NUMEROUS MISSIONS ON THEIR WAY.

3. IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING I AM LOATH TO RELEASE GARVEY. ALTERNATIVES APPEAR TO BE: A) ASSIGN IMMEDIATELY ON TDY A PERSON FULLY FAMILIAR WITH PROJECT AND KNOWLEDGEABLE IN FRENCH WHO CAN LAND RUNNING WITHIN A WEEK AND TAKE OVER DIRECTION OF PROJECT; B) ASSIGN OFFICER ON PERMANENT BASIS TO PROJECT WHICH FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW IS BETTER THAN TDY EVEN THOUGH IF MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF SOME MOMENTUM IN PROJECT UNTIL THIS PERSON IS IN PLACE AND HAS FAMILIARIZED HIMSELF. MEANWHILE, WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH TDY SPECIALISTS, FORTHCOMING VISITORS, ETC., AND UNTIL QUESTION OF NCPP PROJECT OFFICER IS CLARIFIED, IT WOULD BE GREAT HELP TO US TO HAVE GARVEY REMAIN ON BOARD WHILE LONGER.

3. AS GARVEY IS SCHEDULED DEPART OCTOBER 13, EARLY RESPONSE APPRECIATED.HECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NIAMEY03397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740286-0604
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741060/aaaabzai.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: AMBASSADOR-ROSENTHAL TELECON OCTOBER
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL CEREALS PRODUCTION PROGRAM NIGER (NCPN)
TAGS: EAID, NG, (BARON, AL), (CHIAVAROLI), (HOWARD, POTTS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005